

## **Small Group Discussion Questions Greenwood County**

What is occurring in your community which addresses these responsibilities and areas for action?

- High School/College partnerships
- Articulation
- Dual enrollment
- Career planning, goal attainment
- Business and industry involvement/support of EEDA
- Family support (also a barrier/concern)
- After school
- GED – parent literacy
- Even Start
- First Steps
- 4k programs
- business partners
- Faith – based activities
- Mentoring programs
- ESOL
- Youth Court
- SAT Prep
- Technology
- AP-Dual Credit
- Magnet school
- Alternative schools
- WS has appointed a resource (person) to ID and assist at-risk students- focus on individual needs
- 50-ID at- risk status by category (discipline, grades, attendance, attitude) so that needs can be met. (Work Keys)
- industry is starting a Work Keys assessment to ID and match skill sets / jobs for 9<sup>th</sup> graders
- Community Plus
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Gants
- Child development classes (k-4)
- Gleams/Head Start
- Healthy Learners
- Cornerstone/ Sexual Trauma Availability
- Legacy
- Communities in Schools
- Healthy Families

- Success By 6
- Case Management
- First Steps
- After school/ Community Tutoring

What are the critical barriers to fulfilling the commitment in your community?

- Communication
- Economics, labor force
- Funding from all levels
- Language, cultural barriers
- Media support
- Finances
- Teacher recruitment
- Resistance to change
- Value of education
- Family break-down
- Lazy attitudes
- Open communication and participation (awareness) between education and industry
- Resources – money, people
- Lack of parental commitment
- Lack of realistic view of student abilities(accurate assessment, open communication and honesty
- Don't understand the competition for jobs
- Limited communication between agencies
- Limited understanding of the needs
- Geographic distances in communities
- Economic issues/ limited growth
- Minimal low cost/ affordable extra curriculum activities for youth.
- Unwillingness to accept change.
- Failure to accept responsibilities
- Parenting skills

List the five most important things your community can do to address the responsibilities of Common Ground.

- Be vocal and active
- Raise awareness
- Analyze our data and make informed decisions
- improve communication (e-mail, newsletters o others
- increase community's functional literacy
- change adult schedules to fit students
- study financial allocations for redirection
- recruitment incentives-bonuses
- require parental involvement-support
- promote education
- involvement of total community
- educate the community ( senior citizens, businesses, couples w/no children – those groups who feel they are non-stake holders)
- Honest communication with students-abilities, preparation, job – availability.
- Work certification program
- Emphasize technology and industry internships.
- Visionary leadership in the community with a commitment for growth.
- A community willing to accept change
- Recruit, retain quality teachers who make connections to students
- System of communication
- Parent involvement

List the five most important things you as an individual can do to address the responsibilities of Common Ground.

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